ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In the Matter of the Mortgage Broker License Denial of:

AMWEST CAPITAL MORTGAGE, INC.

465 East Grand Avenue Escondido, CA 92025

Petitioner.

No. 10F-BD040-BNK

NOTICE OF HEARING

(Assigned to ALJ Lewis Kowal)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to the Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") §§ 6-137, 6-138 and 41-1092.02, the above-captioned matter will be heard through the Office of Administrative Hearings, an independent agency, and is scheduled for **September 28, 2010, at 8:00 a.m.**, at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona, (602) 542-9826 (the "Hearing").

The purpose of the Hearing is to determine whether grounds exist to deny the mortgage broker's license renewal application of Petitioner.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-138, the Superintendent of Financial Institutions for the State of Arizona (the "Superintendent") delegates the authority vested in the Superintendent, whether implied or expressed, to the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings or the Director's designee to preside over the Hearing as the Administrative Law Judge, to make written recommendations to the Superintendent consisting of proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order. The Office of Administrative Hearings has designated Lewis Kowal, at the address and phone number listed above, as the Administrative Law Judge for these proceedings. Pursuant to Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.") Rule 2-19-104 and A.R.S. §§ 41-1092.01(H)(1) and 41-1092.08, the Superintendent retains authority to enter orders granting a stay, orders on motions for rehearing, final decisions pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.08 or other order or process which the Administrative Law Judge is specifically prohibited from entering.

Motions to continue this matter shall be made in writing to the Administrative Law Judge not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date set for the Hearing. A copy of any motion to continue

 shall be mailed or hand-delivered to the opposing party on the same date of filing with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

A.R.S. § 41-1092.07 entitles any person affected by this Hearing to appear in person and by counsel, or to proceed without counsel during the giving of all evidence, to have a reasonable opportunity to inspect all documentary evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, to present evidence and witnesses in support of his/her interests, and to have subpoenas issued by the Administrative Law Judge to compel attendance of witnesses and production of evidence. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(B), any person may appear on his or her own behalf or by counsel.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(E), a clear and accurate record of the proceedings will be made by a court reporter or by electronic means. Any party that requests a transcript of the proceedings shall pay the cost of the transcript for the court reporter or other transcriber.

Questions concerning issues raised in this Notice of Hearing should be directed to Assistant Attorney General Erin O. Gallagher, (602) 542-8935, 1275 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

NOTICE OF APPLICABLE RULES

On February 7, 1978, the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (the "Department") adopted A.A.C. R20-4-1201 through R20-4-1220, which were amended September 12, 2001, setting forth the rules of practice and procedure applicable in contested cases and appealable agency actions before the Superintendent. The Hearing will be conducted pursuant to these rules and the rules governing procedures before the Office of Administrative Hearings, A.A.C. R2-19-101 through R2-19-122. A copy of these rules is enclosed.

Pursuant to A.A.C. R20-4-1209, Petitioner shall file a written answer within twenty (20) days after issuance of this Notice of Hearing. The answer shall briefly state the Petitioner's position or defense and shall specifically admit or deny each of the assertions contained in this Notice of Hearing. If the answering Petitioner is without or is unable to reasonably obtain knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of an assertion, Petitioner shall so state, which

shall have the effect of a denial. Any assertion not denied is deemed admitted. When Petitioner intends to deny only a part or qualification of an assertion, or to qualify an assertion, Petitioner shall expressly admit so much of it as is true and shall deny the remainder. Any defense not raised in the answer is deemed waived.

If a timely answer is not filed, pursuant to A.A.C. R20-4-1209(D), Petitioner will be deemed in default and the Superintendent may deem the allegations in this Notice of Hearing as true and admitted and the Superintendent may take whatever action is appropriate, including issuing an order or any other remedy necessary or proper for the enforcement of statutes and rules regulating mortgage brokers in Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6 123 and 6-131, and imposing a civil money penalty pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-132.

Petitioner's answer shall be mailed or delivered to the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions, 2910 North 44th Street, Suite 310, Phoenix, Arizona 85018, with a copy mailed or delivered to the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1400 West Washington, Suite 101, Phoenix, Arizona 85007 and to Assistant Attorney General Erin O. Gallagher, Consumer Protection & Advocacy Section, Attorney General's Office, 1275 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

Persons with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations such as interpreters, alternative format or assistance with physical accessibility. Requests for accommodations must be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodations. If accommodations are required, call the Office of Administrative Hearings at (602) 542-9826.

COMPLAINT

- 1. Petitioner Amwest Capital Mortgage, Inc. ("Amwest") is a California corporation authorized to transact business in Arizona as a mortgage broker, License Number MB-0910277 within the meaning of A.R.S. §§ 6-901, et seq. The nature of Amwest's business is that of making, negotiating, or offering to make or negotiate loans secured by Arizona real property within the meaning of A.R.S. § 6-901(11).
 - 2. Glenn F. Hinton ("Mr. Hinton") is the President of Amwest.

- 3. Amwest is not exempt from licensure as a mortagge broker within the meaning of A.R.S. § 6-902.
- 4. On or about December 29, 2009, D. Hinton submitted Amwest's Mortgage Broker License Renewal Application ("Renewal Application") via the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System. D. Hinton attested in the Renewal Application he was "duly appointed and authorized" by Amwest and swore that all information contained in Amwest's online record is "true, accurate and complete in accordance with the appropriate jurisdiction's law."
- 5. In the Disclosure Questions section of Amwest's online record, D. Hinton answered "no" to each of the following inquiries on October 29, 2009: "In the past 10 years, has any State or federal regulatory agency or foreign financial regulatory authority: (1) found the entity or a control affiliate to have made a false statement or omission or been dishonest, unfair or unethical?; (2) found the entity or a control affiliate to have been involved in a violation of a financial services-related regulation(s) or statute(s)?; (3) found the entity or a control affiliate to have been a cause of a financial services-related business having its authorization to do business denied, suspended, revoked or restricted?; (5) denied, suspended, or revoked the entity's or a control affiliate's registration or license or otherwise, by order, prevented it from associating with a financial services-related business or restricted its activities?"
- 6. On October 5, 2009, the Department received certified documents from the Idaho Department of Finance ("IDF") regarding State of Idaho, Department of Finance, Consumer Finance Bureau v. Amwest Capital Mortgage, Inc., Docket No. 2008-8-09, Order Denying Application for A Mortgage Broker/Lender License and Notice of the Opportunity For A Hearing ("Order"). This Order was executed by the Director of the IDF.
- 7. According to the Order, D. Hinton, on behalf of Amwest, accepted a Uniform Residential Loan Application from an Idaho resident. Amwest submitted this loan application to Guild Mortgage along with a document purporting to be an Idaho "Mortgage Lender License" which had allegedly been issued to Amwest by the IDF. However, this particular document was on a form

that had not been used by the IDF for over four years. Subsequently, Guild Mortgage contacted the IDF and learned that Amwest had not been issued a mortgage broker/lender license.

- 8. The IDF's December 19, 2008 Order concluded, "The Director finds that Respondent's submission of a fictitious mortgage lender license to Guild Mortgage on July 27, 2008, demonstrates that Respondent lacks the character and fitness necessary to warrant the belief that Respondent will engage in the mortgage brokering/lending business honestly and fairly, within the purposes of the Act...Further, the Director finds that Respondent's acceptance of a residential mortgage loan when Respondent did not hold a mortgage broker/lender license issued by the [IDF] constitutes a violation of the Act and establishes a separate basis for denial of Respondent's application..."
- 9. At no time did Amwest update its online record Disclosure Questions section to reflect the issuance of IDF's July 27, 2008 Order.
- 10. Based upon, but not limited to the foregoing, on February 17, 2010, the Department denied Amwest's Renewal Application pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(7).
- 11. The Department's denial of Amwest's Renewal Application is an appealable agency action as defined by A.R.S. § 41-1092(3).
- 12. On March 16, 2010, the Department received a request for hearing from Amwest to appeal the Department's denial of its Renewal Application.
- 13. Additionally, on March 10, 2010, according to the Public Access System of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC"), the ACC issued a Certificate of Revocation which revoked Amwest's authority to transact business/conduct affairs as a foreign corporation in the state of Arizona. The revocation was due to an "undeliverable domestic address."

GROUNDS FOR DENIAL

- 1. 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 6-901, et seq., the Superintendent has the authority and duty to regulate all persons engaged in the mortgage broker business and with the enforcement of statutes, rules, and regulations relating to mortgage brokers.
 - 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-903(B), the Superintendent shall not grant a mortgage broker's

 license...to a person, other than a natural person, who is not registered to do business in this state on the date of granting the license.

- 3. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(2), the Superintendent may deny a license to a person or suspend or revoke a license if the Superintendent finds the applicant or licensee has shown that it is not a person of honesty, truthfulness and good character.
- 4. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(7), the Superintendent may deny a license to a person or suspend or revoke a license if the Superintendent finds that an applicant or licensee has had an order entered against him involving fraud, deceit or misrepresentation by an administrative agency in this state, the federal government or any other state or territory of the United States and that the facts relating to the order indicate that it would be contrary to the interest of the public to permit such person to be licensed or to control or manage a licensee.
- 5. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(8), the Superintendent may deny a license to a person or suspend or revoke a license if the Superintendent finds that the applicant or licensee has made a material misstatement or suppressed or withheld information on the application for a license.
- 6. Grounds exist for the denial of Amwest's Renewal Application pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(7) and (A)(8), as Amwest has had an administrative order issued against it by the Idaho Department of Finance based on its acceptance of a Uniform Residential Loan Application for an Idaho resident prior to applying for licensure in Idaho, and subsequently providing Guild Mortgage with a fabricated document purporting to be Amwest's Idaho "Mortgage Lender License," as well as the fact that Amwest misrepresented to the Department on its renewal application that no administrative orders had been issued against it.
- 7. Grounds exist for the denial of Amwest's Renewal Application pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-903(B), as Amwest is not registered with the ACC to do business in the state of Arizona.
- 8. Grounds exist for the denial of Amwest's Renewal Application pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(2), as Amwest's actions in misrepresenting itself to both the Department and IDF show it is not a person of honesty, truthfulness and good character.

1	WHEREFORE, if after a hearing, the Superintendent makes a finding of one or more of the
2	above-described violations, the Superintendent may affirm the denial of Amwest's Mortgage Broker
3	License Renewal Application, pursuant to A.R.S. § 6-903(B) and A.R.S. § 6-905(A)(2), (A)(7) and
4	
5	(A)(8). DATED this 11 th day of May, 2010.
6	Lauren W. Kingry Superintendent of Financial Institutions
7	alto 1
8	Robert D. Charlton
9	Assistant Superintendent of Financial Institutions
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12	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this 11th day of May, 2010, in the office of:
13	Lauren W. Kingry
14	Superintendent of Financial Institutions Arizona Department of Financial Institutions
15	ATTN: Susan Longo 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
16	Phoenix, AZ 85018
17	COPY mailed/delivered same date to:
18	Lewis Kowal, Administrative Law Judge
19	Office of the Administrative Hearings 1400 West Washington, Suite 101
20	Phoenix, AZ 85007
21	Erin O. Gallagher Assistant Attorney General
22	Office of the Attorney General 1275 West Washington
23	Phoenix, AZ 85007
24	Robert D. Charlton, Assistant Superintendent Richard Fergus, Licensing Division Manager
25	Arizona Department of Financial Institutions 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 310
26	Phoenix, AZ 85018
20	

*****	AND COPY MAILED SAME DATE by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:
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3	Amwest Capital Mortgage, Inc. Attn: Glenn F. Hinton, President 465 E. Grand Ave.
4	Escondido, CA 92025 Petitioner
5	Couling Fond Statistons: A cont for
6	Corliss Ford, Statutory Agent for: Amwest Capital Mortgage, Inc. 4909 E. McDowell Rd, #120
7	Phoenix, AZ 85008
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